

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/752,120

Applicant(s)

ESTRADA ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Kieu D. Vu

2173

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to The Amendment filed 05/23/05 and telephone interview on 08/18/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 8-9, 12-25, 27, 29-32 (renumbered as 1-26).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 03 October 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's representative Shelley Beckstrand on 08/18/05.

3. Title, Abstract, Specification, and Claims have been amended as follows:

The Claims have been amended as follows:

Claim 1:

A computer implemented method for defining a theme and associating it with a collaboration space, comprising:  
said theme including a cascading style sheet and a predetermined set of layout files, with a layout file for each of a plurality of view modes of operation, each said layout file specifying content and layout of a plurality of skin components including logo, table of contents, action bar, tool bar, and page content;  
said predetermined set of layout files containing five layout files, said layout files being a page read mode layout file, a

Art Unit: 2173

list folder view layout file, a headline folder view layout file, a slide show folder layout file, and a page edit mode layout file;

said cascading style sheet including a common style sheet and a skin style sheet, said common style sheet specifying font, size and color style for said skin components common to each of said view modes of operation;

rendering each said layout file to a browser for user definition of said view modes of operation by providing for each said layout file which skin components to use and their respective locations, each of a plurality of said skin components comprising a plurality selectively of HTML tags and Java script within a skin component tag;

presenting to a user interface a gallery of themes from which a user selectively chooses and optionally tweaks a visual site design for rendering said collaboration space to said user selectively in each of said view modes of operation;

tweaking a theme by selecting basic property changes through said user interface to specific classes of said common style sheet;

operating a collaboration space server to feed said changes to said common style sheet; and

uploading said theme to said collaboration space.

Claim 2

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Claim 3

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Claim 4

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Line 4, replace "a collaboration" with "the collaboration"

Claim 5

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Claim 8

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Line 2, replace "the steps" with "the step"

Claim 9

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Art Unit: 2173

Claim 12

A computer implemented method for defining a theme for style and layout of a collaboration space user interface, comprising the steps of:

said theme including a cascading style sheet and a predetermined set of five layout files for rendering pages of collaboration space at a user interface selectively according to a predetermined set of modes;

said cascading style sheet including a common style sheet and a skin style sheet;

said layout files being a page read mode layout file, a list folder view layout file, a headline folder view layout file, a slide show folder layout file, and a page edit mode layout file;

organizing skin components in said layout files into a plurality of view modes of operation for said user interface, with a layout file for each of a plurality of view modes of operation, said view modes including page read, page edit, list folder view, headline folder view, and slide show folder view;

Art Unit: 2173

said skin components comprising logo, table of contents, action bar, tool bar, and page content;

said common style sheet specifying font, size and color style for said skin components common to each of said view modes of operation, each of said skin components comprising a plurality selectively of HTML tags and Java script contained within a skin component tag;

rendering each said layout file to a browser for user definition of said view modes of operation by specifying in each said layout file which skin components to use and their respective locations in said user interface;

presenting to a user interface a gallery of themes from which a user selectively chooses and optionally tweaks a visual site design for rendering said collaboration space to said user selectively in each of said view modes of operation;

tweaking a theme by selecting basic property changes through said user interface to specific classes of said common style sheet ;

operating a collaboration space server to feed said changes to  
said common style sheet; and

importing said theme into collaboration space.

Claim 13

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Claim 14

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Claim 15

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Line 3, replace "space" with "spaces"

Claim 16

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Claim 17

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Lines 4-5, replace "the identity and suiting the work" with  
"an identity and suiting work"

Claim 18

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Claim 19

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Art Unit: 2173

Claim 20

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Line 2, after "said" insert -- user--

Claim 21

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Claim 22

Line 1, after "The computer" insert -- implemented method--

Line 4, after "a plurality of" insert -- style sheet --

Claim 23

System for designing a theme and associating it with a collaboration space user interface for use in a collaboration space, comprising:

said theme including a cascading style sheet and a predetermined set of layout files;

said cascading style sheet including a common style sheet and a skin style sheet;

said common style sheet page for defining a plurality of different view modes of operation for said collaboration space user interface;



Art Unit: 2173

said layout files including five layout files, each said layout file for each of said plurality of different view modes of operation;

said view modes of operation including page read, page edit, list folder view, headline folder view, and slide show folder view;

each said layout file specifying content and layout of a plurality of skin components including logo, table of content, page content, action bar, and tool bar, wherein each of a plurality of said components comprising selectively HTML and Java script contained within a skin component tag;

a browser for rendering each said layout file to a user for definition of said view modes of operation by specifying in said layout files which skin components to use and their respective locations within said collaboration space user interface;

said common style sheet page specifying font, size, and color style for said skin components;

Art Unit: 2173

said collaboration space user interface for presenting to a user a gallery of themes from which said user selectively chooses and optionally tweaks a visual site design for rendering said collaboration space to said user selectively in each of said view modes of operation;

said collaboration space user interface presenting to said user facility for tweaking a theme by selecting basic property changes to specific classes of said common style sheet;

a collaboration space server for feeding said changes to said common style sheet; and

an upload control for uploading said theme to said collaboration space.

Claim 24

The system of claim 23, said upload control further for receiving said layout files from a local storage for uploading to said collaboration space server.

Claim 25

Line 4, replace "to said" with "to an"

Claim 28

Canceled.

Claim 29

The system of claim 23, said theme providing links to other collaboration space resources.

Claim 31

A program storage solid medium readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform operations for defining a theme for layout of collaboration space user interface components of a collaboration space, operations comprising:

constructing said theme including a cascading style sheet and a predetermined set of layout files, with a layout file for each of a plurality of view modes of operation, each said layout file specifying content and layout of a plurality of skin components including logo, table of contents, action bar, tool bar, and page content;

defining predetermined set of layout files containing five layout files, said layout files being a page read mode layout file, a list folder view layout file, a headline folder view

Art Unit: 2173

layout file, a slide show folder layout file, and a page edit mode layout file;

defining cascading style sheet including a common style sheet and a skin style sheet, said common style sheet specifying font, size and color style for said skin components common to each of said view modes of operation;

rendering each said layout file to a browser for user definition of said view modes of operation by providing for each said layout file which skin components to use and their respective locations, each of a plurality of said skin components comprising a plurality selectively of HTML tags and Java script within a skin component tag;

presenting to a user interface a gallery of themes from which a user selectively chooses and optionally tweaks a visual site design for rendering said collaboration space to said user selectively in each of said view modes of operation;

tweaking a theme by selecting basic property changes through said user interface to specific classes of said common style sheet;

operating a collaboration space server to feed said changes to said common style sheet; and

uploading said theme to said collaboration space.

Claim 32

A program storage solid medium readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform operations for defining a theme for controlling style and layout of a collaboration space user interface, operations comprising:

defining said theme including a cascading style sheet and a predetermined set of five layout files for rendering pages of collaboration space at a user interface selectively according to a predetermined set of modes;

defining said cascading style sheet including a common style sheet and a skin style sheet;

defining said layout files being a page read mode layout file, a list folder view layout file, a headline folder view layout

Art Unit: 2173

file, a slide show folder layout file, and a page edit mode layout file;

organizing skin components in said layout files into a plurality of view modes of operation for said user interface, with a layout file for each of a plurality view modes of operation, said view modes including page read, page edit, list folder view, headline folder view, and slide show folder view;

specifying said skin components comprising logo, table of contents, action bar, tool bar, and page content;

defining said common style sheet specifying font, size and color style for said skin components common to each of said view modes of operation, each of said skin components comprising a plurality selectively of HTML tags and Java script contained within a skin component tag;

rendering each said layout file to a browser for user definition of said view modes of operation by specifying in each said layout file which skin components to use and their respective locations in said user interface;

Art Unit: 2173

presenting to a user interface a gallery of themes from which a user selectively chooses and optionally tweaks a visual site design for rendering said collaboration space to said user selectively in each of said view modes of operation;

tweaking a theme by selecting basic property changes through said user interface to specific classes of said common style sheet;

operating a collaboration space server to feed said changes to said common style sheet; and

importing said theme into collaboration space.

The Title: replace the Title beginning at page 1, line 1 with the following Title:

Method and System for Designing a Theme and Associating It With a Collaboration Space User Interface

replace the Title beginning at page 129, line 1 with the following Title:

Method and System for Designing a Theme and Associating It With a Collaboration Space User Interface

*In the Specification*

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The following U. S. patent applications, filed concurrently herewith, are assigned to the same assignee hereof and contain subject matter related to the subject matter of the present application:

U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/752,115 filed 12/29/2000, now U.S. Patent 6,744,447, issued 1 Jun 2004, entitled "Method and System for Automatically Accessing, Processing, and Managing the Data In a Place";

U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/752,121 filed 12/29/2000, entitled "Method and System for Importing HTML Forms";

U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/752,172 filed 12/29/2000, entitled "Method and System for Importing MS Office Forms";



U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/752,942 filed  
12/29/2000, entitled "Method and System for Creating a Place  
Type to Be Used as a Template for Other Places";

U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/752,934 filed  
12/29/2000, now U.S. Patent 6,791,582, issued 14 Sep 2004,  
entitled "Method and System for Identifying and Displaying  
Information That Is New or Has Been Updated In a Place";

U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/752,961 filed  
12/29/2000, entitled "Method and System for Providing Task  
Information in a Place";

U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/752,745 filed  
12/29/2000, entitled "Method and System for Providing  
Synchronous Communication and Person Awareness In a Place";

U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/752,962 filed  
12/29/2000, entitled "Method and System for Providing a  
Separate Browser Window With Information From the Main  
Window In a Simpler Format";

U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/752,935 filed  
12/29/2000, entitled "Method and System for Allowing In

Place Editing of Office Documents In a Place".

The present application is also an improvement upon the following copending, previously filed applications, assigned to the same assignee:

Serial Number 09/473,745 filed 12/28/1999, now U.S. Patent 6,732,148, issued 4 May 2004, entitled "System and Method for Interconnecting Secure Rooms";

Serial Number 09/473,630 filed 12/28/1999, entitled "System and Method for Dynamic Management of Web Site";

Serial Number 09/473,640 filed 12/28/1999, entitled "System and Method for Presentation of Room Navigation";

Serial Number 09/473,098 filed 12/28/1999, entitled "System and Method for Independent Room Security Management";

Serial Number 09/477,477 filed 1/4/2000, entitled "System and Method for Dynamically Generating Viewable Graphics";

Serial Number 09/477,471 filed 1/4/2000, entitled "System and Method for Dynamic Browser Management of Web Site";

Serial Number 09/477,474 filed 1/4/2000, now U.S. Patent 6,772,393, issued 3 Aug 2004, entitled "System and Method for Room Decoration and Inheritance";

Serial Number 09/477,469 filed 1/4/2000, now U.S. Patent 6,594,664, issued 15 Jul 2003, entitled "System and Method for Online/Offline Uninterrupted Updating of Rooms in Collaboration Space";

Serial Number 09/477,473 filed 1/4/2000, now U.S. Patent 6,636,889, issued 21 Oct 2003, entitled "System and Method for Client Replication of Collaboration Space";

Serial Number 09/477,476 filed 1/4/2000, now U.S. Patent 6,748,425, issued 8 Jun 2004, entitled "System and Method for Browser Creation and Maintenance of Forms";

Serial Number 09/478,238 filed 1/4/2000, now U.S. Patent 6,728,762, issued 27 Apr 2004, entitled "System and Method for Browser Definition of Workflow Documents".--.

Art Unit: 2173

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 47, line 12 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- For Java and LotusScript programmers, the PlaceBot is the main way of implementing sophisticated functionality to a QuickPlace. Within the bounds of an HTML document, industry standard authoring tools such as HTML are used. To make links between Objects and manipulate QuickPlace Objects, PlaceBots are used. The PlaceBot object is further described in copending U.S. Patent application S/N \_\_\_\_\_, ~~assignee docket LOT9 2000-0022-US1~~ S/N 09/752,115 filed 12/29/2000, entitled "Method and System for Automatically Accessing, Processing, and Managing the Data In a Place".

Please delete the Abstract beginning at page 129, line 4, in its entirety, and replace it with the following paragraph:

A theme is defined and associated with a collaboration space user interface. The theme includes a predetermined set of files including a cascading style sheet and a predetermined set of layout files, with a layout file for each of a plurality of view modes of operation. Each layout file specifies content and layout of a plurality of skin components including logo, table of contents, action bar, tool bar, and page content skin components. The set of layout files contains five layout files for page view mode layout, list folder view layout, headline folder view layout, slide show layout, and page edit mode. The cascading style sheet includes a common style sheet and a skin style sheet, with the common style sheet specifying font, size and color style for page content skin components common to each view mode of operation.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 1-5, 8-9, 12-25, 27, and 29-32 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Examiner has carefully considered the independent claims 1, 12, 23, 31, and 32. The teaching for defining a theme for style and layout of a collaboration space user interface recited in claims 1, 12, 23, 31, and 32 was not taught or suggested by the prior art. Salas (USP 6233600) teaches the layout on an HTML page containing components and controls defined by HTML specifications. Underwood (USP 6601057) teaches steps for generating a web site generation and changing the look and feel of a web site. However, neither Salas or Underwood, alone or in combination, teaches steps for defining a theme for collaboration space, wherein the "theme including a cascading style sheet and a predetermined set of layout files, with a layout file for each of a plurality of view modes of operation, each said layout file specifying content and layout of a plurality of skin components including logo, table of contents, action bar, tool bar, and page content; said predetermined set of layout files containing five layout files, said layout files being a page read mode layout file, a list folder view layout file, a headline folder view layout file, a slide show folder

layout file, and a page edit mode layout file; said cascading style sheet including a common style sheet and a skin style sheet, said common style sheet specifying font, size and color style for said skin components common to each of said view modes of operation; rendering each said layout file to a browser for user definition of said view modes of operation by providing for each said layout file which skin components to use and their respective locations, each of a plurality of said skin components comprising a plurality selectively of HTML tags and Java script within a skin component tag" in specific combinations as recited in independent claims 1, 12, 23, 31, and 32. Claims 1, 12, 23, 31, and 32 define patentably over relevant prior art made of record.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM at 571-272-4057.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached at 571-272-4048.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

571-273-8300

and / or:

571-273-4057 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kieu D. Vu  
Patent Examiner

